

DRAFT

Task Force on School Funding Subcommittee on High Cost Disability Recommendations for the full Task Force

Issues:

Through public testimony and discussion amongst the full School Fund Task Force, the following issues were raised in regard to the High Cost Disability Grant:

1. Should the minimum \$30,000 qualifying threshold for the grant be reduced? If so, to what level?
2. If the minimum threshold is reduced, what effect would that have on the funding level of all students?
3. Is the grant funded adequately?
4. Is the prorated reimbursement adequate?
5. Should there be incentives for districts to keep costs down?

Recommendations:

The subcommittee met to review and discuss these issues, and others, and has made the following recommendation:

Maintain the current formula-driven grant and set the reimbursement rate at 80%.

Solution:

To accomplish this, the amount of funding for the High Cost Disability Grant will need to be increased. This can be accomplished, in part or in whole, by reducing other carve outs such as the Facilities Grant, the amount ODE withholds each biennium and/or the amount of funds dedicated to strategic investments. The recommendation is to increase the reimbursement rate without further diluting the State School Fund (SSF) disbursements. Additional revenue from outside of the SSF would be ideal.

In order to set a reimbursement rate at, or about 80%, based on current data, the overall grant would need to be \$36 million per year, which is twice as much as the current allocation for the grant.